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received, and controls active display of a combination of an icon corresponding to a management item in accordance with a determination result and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon.

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-- 66. (Twice Amended) A system for managing, by a primary shop, orders received from a first shop and orders placed with a second shop comprising:
data transmission/reception means for transmitting and receiving data indicating statuses of orders received and orders placed between a plurality of computers; and
display control means for controlling display on display means of the data received by said data transmission/reception means in a form of a combination of an icon corresponding to a management item and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon,

wherein said display control means determines actively whether data input by said data transmission/reception means is of an order received and placed, an order placed, or an order received, and controls active display of a combination of an icon corresponding to a management item in accordance with a determination result and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon.

REMARKS

Claims 60 and 66 have been amended. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by this Amendment. This marked-up version has been entitled "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

The Examiner has rejected applicants' claims 60-96 as anticipated by the Peterson, et al. patent. With respect to applicants' claims, as amended, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

(1) The Claimed Invention

Applicants' claimed invention relates to a parts management system and method, etc. The invention enables management of the form by which processing status of orders received

and/or orders placed is understood easily immediately as sight information by displaying a management item by a combination of an icon and data.

Applicants' independent claims, for example, independent claim 60 and 66, recite a **display control means which determines actively** whether data input by a communication means is of an order received and placed, an order placed, or an order received, and further **controls actively display** of an icon corresponding to a management item in accordance with the determination result and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon. That is, the display control means performs the determination and the display controlling actively. The system estimates change of situations, for example, update of data corresponding to each management item etc., actively and displays information quickly to users by the display control means.

In general, parts management has three modes, orders received, orders placed and orders received and placed. Each management mode contains different management information according to each standpoint of the request.

With respect to the claimed invention, the particular mode of the parts management is assessed by determining whether the data input is of (a) orders received and placed, or (b) orders received, or (c) orders placed. Management information corresponding to the modes ((a), (b) and (c)) is then enabled to be indicated by selectively displaying the result. Display controlling for actively determining the mode, for the combination of an icon and data, for the form of graph and/or table, are preformed. The icon corresponds to the management item (Claims 60-69). A plurality of management items are displayed for parts management items can be displayed in the form of a graph (claims 70-82) and/or table (claims 82-96).

The above features of active determination of the mode and for actively controlling the

display for the combination of the icon and data, for the form of graph and/or table, are not taught or suggested by the cited Peterson, et al. patent.

(2) Comments on Cited Reference:

(2-1) Peterson, et al (USP 6,324,522)

(a) Display Control

The Peterson, et al. patent discloses a system for industrial maintenance repair and operating (MRO) for parts and supplies. In this system, orders which a user has already placed to vendors can be checked by the Order Status Function. The contents of the processing shown by Figs. 14, 15 and 18 are limited only to the processing for the user placing the orders to the vendors. In the MRO system, the user does not receive new orders (order received) by an information network.

Fig. 14 is the flow chart of an electronic commerce function processing. The user selects a vendor's name in a step 306. The vendor's main page 308 will then be presented. The vendor's main page is divided into three selections: a Banner, a Menu Options area, and a Quick Search area 310 (specification column 21, lines 55-64). The user selects the contents which should be displayed from the Menu Options area. The information displayed by the system is passive.

Display operation of the order status page is described (specification column 34, lines 65-68). According to this description, "The user can review orders that the user has previously placed with the user's vendor, selected in the step 308, by clicking on the "Get Order Status" button 600 (Fig. 14)." The button 600 is clicked, a getting order status processing will be started (Fig. 18). "New Orders", "Order in Process" and "Processed Orders" are displayed in the vendor's Order status page 602 (specification column 35, line 1-4).

Moreover, in cases where a button 324 (Fig. 14) is clicked by the user, a processing (Fig. 15) of new order starts. The "new order" in Figs. 14, 15 and 18 is not a received order, instead it is a newly placed order to the vendors by the user. For example, to review a detail item of any order in the New Order section, in a step 618, the user clicks on the order number to select the order to be reviewed. And in a step 620, the information network system displays the detail item based on the user's selection. Accordingly, the display of the order status page based on the requirement of the user is passive.

The Examiner has argued that the display mode as represented by boxes no. 305, 700 and 702 in Fig. 14 corresponds with the display control of claimed invention (Response to Arguments 18, line 5-7). However, this argument is not correct. The shift to processing of box no. 305 (Fig. 14) is based on the user's selection in this case (specification column 21, lines 50-54). The processing of box no. 305 is thus based on the user's selection, and is passive.

Processing for initiating requisitions is performed in box no. 700, 702. In the processing, "a list of requisitions awaiting the user's approval is displayed" on a display (column 40, lines 26,27). "Requisition number", "vendor code", "customer number" and "date of the requisition" are contained in the list display at least. In addition to this display, "View Text" etc. for making it shift to the next processing (703) is displayed (column 40, lines 39-42).

However, in this displaying of information in the Peterson, et al. patent, there is no display control means which actively determines whether input data is of (a) orders received and placed, or (b) orders received, or (c) orders placed. Accordingly, there is also no control actively of information, e.g. icon and status data, based on the determination result.

Furthermore, the Examiner has also argued that "the information network enabled to permit the end user to monitor the order processing by the vendor", noting Fig. 2

(applicants believe this should be Fig. 3), step 72. However, when the end user monitors the processing result, a concrete display control is not shown. Instead, the end user can only monitor the contents based on an agreement with the vendor. The monitor display is dependent on the agreement, i.e. one (1) condition.

However, the display control of the Peterson, et al. patent does not actively or itself determine, three (3) conditions, whether data input is of (a) orders received and placed, or (b) orders received, or (c) orders placed.

(b) Icons

A "search string" of Peterson, et al. patent and the icon of the claimed invention are essentially different. The search string functions as an identifier for searching each data, and corresponds with a par: number, etc. The search string can use a character, numbers, or these in combination (column 23, lines 45-52).

However, the search string is used in order to make the correspondence relation of each data, and it does not show the management item classified like the claimed invention. Moreover, Peterson, et al. do not disclose the configuration of visualizing the processing situation of the classified management item by the combination display of an icon and data which indicates a status of the management item represented by the icon.

(3) Conclusion

In the Peterson, et al. patent the concrete display processing corresponding to the "display control means" of the claimed invention is not disclosed. Peterson, et al. do not teach or suggest the active display control for determining the display modes, and do not determine actively whether or not inputted data corresponds to which of the three (3) modes of (a) orders received and placed, or (b) orders received, or (c) orders placed.

Furthermore, Peterson, et al. patent does not control for displaying a combination of an icon and data in accordance with the determination result. Finally, processing of **graph display and/or table form display** related to the inputted data is not disclosed.


Instead, the Peterson, et al. patent discloses only display of the received user's selection without "display control" and "determination of display mode", as in the claimed invention.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicants' claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

ROBIN, BLECKER & DALEY
330 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017
(212) 682-9640


John J. Torrente
Registration No. 26,359
An Attorney of Record

Version With Markings To Show Changes MadeIN THE CLAIMS

Amend claims 60 and 66 as follows:

-- 60. (Twice Amended) A system for managing, by a primary shop, orders received from a first shop and orders placed with a second shop comprising:

communication means for communicating data indicating statuses of orders received and placed, orders received, and orders placed; and

display control means for controlling display on display means of a combination of an icon corresponding to a management item and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon,

wherein said display control means determines actively whether data input by said communication means is of an order received and placed, an order placed, or an order received, and controls actively display of a combination of an icon corresponding to a management item in accordance with a determination result and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon.

-- 66. (Twice Amended) A system for managing, by a primary shop, orders received from a first shop and orders placed with a second shop comprising:

data transmission/reception means for transmitting and receiving data indicating statuses of orders received and orders placed between a plurality of computers; and

display control means for controlling display on display means of the data received by said data transmission/reception means in a form of a combination of an icon corresponding to a management item and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon,

wherein said display control means determines actively whether data input by said data transmission/reception means is of an order received and placed, an order placed, or an order received, and controls actively display of a combination of an icon corresponding to a

management item in accordance with a determination result and data indicating a status of the management item represented by the icon.